

Menomonee River Parkway Renewal News Update

Issue 8

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Construction Phasing & Estimated Schedule

Phase One

W. Congress to W. Burleigh
Complete in 2015

Phase Two

Segment One:
W. Burleigh to N. Swan Blvd.
Paving complete in 2015
Landscaping Spring 2016

Segment Two:
Church Street to Charles Hart
Parkway
Paving Complete in 2015
Landscaping Spring 2016

Charles Hart Parkway to N.
Swan Blvd.
Spring 2016



Community celebrates phase one completion

The rain did nothing to dampen the spirits of those that gathered with County Executive Chris Abele, County Supervisor Luigi Schmitt and Parks' Director John Dargle to celebrate the completion of the first phase of the \$9.1 million Menomonee River Parkway Renewal project. About 2 miles of the parkway from Congress to Burleigh has been completed and includes traffic-calming features, new off-road multi use segments of the Oak Leaf Trail, new LED lighting, and improved storm water management features. The November 12 event provided an opportunity for civic leaders, stakeholders, and guests to tour the project and view the results of their partnership.

"Since I've been in office, we've focused on improving our parks and infrastructure in Wauwatosa and across the County. The Menomonee River Parkway Renewal is a successful example of what we can do when we work together with our partners," said Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele. "Thanks to our collaboration with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, Friends of Hoyt Pool, City of Wauwatosa, City of Milwaukee, Mount Mary University, and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Milwaukee County residents will have even more opportunities to get outside and enjoy our parks system."



Above: Officials joining the celebration included, from left, Parks Director John Dargle, Milwaukee Alderman Jim Bohl, County Executive Chris Abele, Wauwatosa Alderman Jason Wilke, County Supervisor Luigi Schmitt, Wauwatosa Alderman Jeff Roznowski, and Wauwatosa Mayor Kathleen Ehley.

In addition to the speakers shown above, representatives from the project's advisory committee, the design team and construction team also attended along with residents from the area. Dave Fowler represented the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District that had provided a Green Infrastructure Partnership Grant of \$227,000 to improve the quality of storm water runoff and green infrastructure components for the project. With the combination of storm water management features, the project is expected to see an 80% pollutant reduction in the runoff entering the Menomonee River from the parkway.

Still to occur, Parks' staff plans to monitor drainage and assess how the green infrastructure performs in the coming year during rain events to determine if adjustments may be needed. Several missing traffic signs including parking signs and the crosswalk sign at Concordia are on back order and will be placed as soon as they arrive.

Phase Two Construction Status

As reported earlier, Phase Two of the project (Burleigh to Church) was divided into two segments with the intent of completing as much of the roadway work as possible before cold temperatures halted work and asphalt plants closed for the winter. Crews were able to successfully complete removal of the old road surface, sewer work, grading, graveling, and installation of new paving from Burleigh to Swan as well as a segment from Church to Charles Hart Parkway that was in particularly bad condition. Final grading, installation of topsoil and planting will take place in the spring of 2016 as will construction of the final segment between Swan and Charles Hart Parkway. Lighting crews will continue their work every day into the winter until service can be restored.

At this point the electrical conduit is in place from Burleigh to Church and the next step is Pieper Electric installing the new light poles. WE Energies crews are working every day to install the new service. As soon as crews complete their work, WE Energies will test and energize the system.



Light poles ready for installation

More frequently asked questions

Q. When will the street lights be back in service between Burleigh and Church?

A. See phase two construction status above.

Q. When will the pedestrian bridge that connects TOSA Pool and the Parkway be rebuilt?

A. The bridge work is not part of the Menomonee River Parkway Renewal, but is an active County Parks project. The design is being completed and the project will be bid in 2015 with work to begin in early 2016. It is likely the bridge will be closed while the rehab work is done.



Q. Several people had questions about the intersection of MRP and Burleigh including the timing of the stop and go lights and the striping in the northbound traffic lane south of Burleigh on MRP.

A. Regarding the timing of the intersection signals, they are set by the City of Milwaukee and had been adjusted to

accommodate traffic during construction. Now that construction is completed, the city has assigned an electrician to remove the temporary setting and adjust the timing to assure better traffic flow through the intersection. In regards to the striping, the team continues to monitor and evaluate the functionality of improvements. It has been noted that a lane complication exists on the south side of Burleigh and the contractor has been directed to adjust the centerline striping to accommodate two lanes of northbound traffic. It is most likely this work will occur in spring when the weather is warmer.

Q. At Mayfair Road and MRP, there was a right turn lane and a lane for turning left or going straight. Now it appears there is only one lane and traffic is backing up. What's up with that?

A. In addition to the parkway work, the City of Wauwatosa completed some work to replace aging concrete between the parkway and Mayfair Road. With work completed, the team assessed the situation and has decided to adjust the centerline to allow for both right and left turn lanes with about 40' for cars to stack.



This is the final news-update for 2015. The Menomonee River Parkway Renewal Project team thanks you for your support and patience, wishes you and yours a safe and happy holiday season and looks forward to getting back together in the Spring of 2016!

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or via email at Sarah.Toomsen@milwaukeecountywi.gov

Project plans will be available for review online at: www.county.milwaukee.gov/MenomoneeRiverParkwayRenewal

Plans will also be on display at the Milwaukee County Parks offices located at 9480 West Watertown Plank Road (access off Discovery Parkway).